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July/August 2021

Getting To Zero: *Can Oregon Democrats Learn From B.C.'s Conservative-Backed Carbon Tax?*



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FEATURED

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By By Erik Neumann

This year, climate legislation remains a tense topic of debate in Pacific Northwest politics. Why has a carbon pricing program worked in British Columbia but not in Oregon?

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Getting to Zero: Decarbonizing Cascadia is a year-long project by nonprofit news organizations in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia, including JPR.

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COVER: Democratic members of the Oregon Senate sit and stand around the mostly empty Senate chambers at the Oregon Capitol in Salem, Ore., on Thursday, June 27, 2019. It was the eighth day of a walkout by Republican senators, whose absence prevented action on climate legislation.

CREDIT: BRYAN M. VANCE / OPB

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Over the past several years, JPR has deepened its commitment to regional news.

Regional Voices

As we wrap up another fiscal year here at JPR on June 30th, we're looking forward to implementing new ways we can improve our service in the year ahead. One of the initiatives we'll undertake is the continued growth and expansion of our regional news department.

Events of the past year have driven home the importance of local and regional news coverage in communities across the country and here in Southern Oregon and Northern California. JPR has a huge coverage area, about 60,000 square miles of mountains, valleys and coastline spread over two states, and encompassing at least a dozen counties. As local newspapers, especially in some of the smaller communities we serve, continue to be challenged by the changing economics of print journalism, we believe we must step up to provide as much fact-based, high quality journalism to citizens of our region as our resources allow.

Over the past several years, JPR has deepened its commitment to regional news. We invested in a new, larger facility to support increased newsroom capacity. We hired two full-time reporters and added a full-time news director to manage our expanded vision of serving the region. That investment has already paid off in more and better coverage of the communities we serve, a difference that can be heard on our air and seen online every day. In addition, this work has been recognized by numerous professional news organizations with dozens of regional and national awards for journalistic excellence, including a prestigious national Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio Television Digital News Association.

JPR's two full-time reporters are based in Ashland. While they report regularly on major developments in areas outside the Rogue Valley, distance and geography make it hard for them to adequately cover the issues and tell the stories of those communities. To address this challenge, the next phase of the development of our newsroom will be centered around hiring journalists who already live and work in communities outside the Rogue Valley. Specifically, our goal will be to add JPR reporters to our newsroom who are based in the following areas: the Southern Oregon Coast (Coos/Curry Counties), the Klamath Basin (Klamath/Lake Counties), the Umpqua Valley (Roseburg/Douglas County), Northern California (Shasta/Siskiyou Counties) and the North Coast Region (Humboldt/Mendocino Counties).

We see several distinct advantages to this approach:

- We get journalists who are already familiar with the issues and sources in their communities, avoiding the problems of

“parachuting” outside reporters into a community when it makes news that attracts larger attention. These reporters are likely already known and respected as credible voices in their communities.

- Listeners will hear voices and stories from a wider, more diverse range of communities.
- Rural issues will be better reflected in JPR's news coverage.
- Our Rogue Valley based reporters will have more time to focus on enterprise work and in-depth reporting on regional issues.

The first reporter in this initiative joined JPR in June when Holly Dillemoth, a long-time staff reporter for the *Klamath Falls Herald and News*, became JPR's Klamath Basin regional correspondent. Holly reported for the *Herald and News* for over 7 years, covering a diverse range of topics, including city government, higher education and business. Originally from Phoenix, Oregon, Holly earned a B.S. in Communications with an emphasis in Journalism from Southern Oregon University and a M.A. in Public Affairs Reporting/Journalism from the University of Illinois/Springfield. In her first weeks reporting for JPR, Holly broke the story that two Klamath Project irrigators with ties to activist Ammon Bundy purchased private property located adjacent to the headgates of the “A” Canal in Klamath Falls in order to setup an “information center” to draw attention to federal water managers' decision to shut off water from farms and ranches. Later, those same irrigators said that they intend to break into federal property and open the controls that are preventing water from Upper Klamath Lake from being used for agricultural purposes. Holly's reporting on this issue was later followed by *The New York Times*, CNN and *The Atlantic*.

We look forward to strengthening our regional journalism in the year ahead with the goal of bringing you a wider range of voices and issues from a broader sweep of Southern Oregon and Northern California communities. When you hear these stories, you can take satisfaction in knowing that it's your support that makes them possible.



Paul Westhelle is
JPR's Executive Director.



Getting to Zero: Decarbonizing Cascadia is a year-long project by nonprofit news organizations in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. Led by Seattle-based InvestigateWest, the project also will include contributions from The Tyee in Vancouver, British Columbia; national news site Grist.org; Crosscut.com in Washington; and Jefferson Public Radio in Oregon. More details can be found at www.invw.org/getting-to-zero/

Getting To Zero:

Can Oregon Democrats Learn From B.C.'s Conservative-Backed Carbon Tax?

By Erik Neumann

This year, climate legislation remains a tense topic of debate in Pacific Northwest politics. Why has a carbon pricing program worked in British Columbia but not in Oregon?

In 2019 and again in 2020, Oregon Republicans walked out of the state Legislature to prevent a vote on cap-and-trade climate bills. The legislation was meant to drive down the state's carbon emissions, but Republicans feared the bills would place the greatest burden of higher fuel prices on sparsely populated rural communities.

In 2008, the center-right party in British Columbia, actually named the Liberal Party, created a carbon tax to reduce emissions. More than a decade later, it has helped lower emissions without disproportionately hurting rural B.C. residents.

This year, climate legislation remains a tense topic of debate in Pacific Northwest politics. Why has a carbon pricing program worked in British Columbia but not in Oregon?

Protests rooted in rural apprehensions

In 2020, members of the populist group Timber Unity flooded the streets of Salem, Ore., blaring air horns from big rig trucks. They were rallying at the state Capitol to protest a cap-and-trade climate bill. Many of the group's members, which included Republican legislators, felt that rural communities were overlooked in climate legislation forged by the Democratic majority.

Todd Stoffel is a trucker and the vice president of the Timber Unity Association. While some residents and businesses would have received so-called carve-outs, which exempted them from increased fuel costs, he was concerned about those who would have to pay more.

PREVIOUS PAGE: A man on stilts wears State of Jefferson regalia at a Timber Unity rally in front of the Oregon Capitol in Salem, Ore., Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020.

“The people that didn’t get carve-outs, the cost of it is going to fall on their backs. And dumping more stuff on the backs of the taxpayer is not right,” Stoffel said during a 2020 interview on Oregon Public Broadcasting’s *Think Out Loud*.

The Republican walkouts effectively killed the climate bills by depriving the Senate of a quorum and preventing votes the opponents were nearly certain to lose. One of those lawmakers was Republican state Rep. David Brock Smith from Oregon’s southwest coast. Brock Smith was the minority representative on the Legislature’s carbon-reduction committee. Today he’s still concerned rural Oregonians would shoulder the biggest financial burden of a cap-and-trade law as more expensive fuel drives up prices for groceries and other commodities.

“So that apple in Brookings would be more expensive to buy than it would be in Portland, just for the basic fact that it’s farther away,” he said. He also worries rural Oregonians wouldn’t benefit from the green energy jobs advertised in the past legislation.

“The proponents of the bill never put pen to paper on where those jobs were going to come from, where these investments in rural Oregon were going to go,” Brock Smith said.

Even after two years of legislation and months of debate, Oregon’s cap-and-trade proposals could not achieve one of the key aspects of British Columbia’s success – bringing business interests and rural residents on board.

Despite similar, initial concerns in British Columbia, the province’s 2008 carbon tax actually had less impact on rural communities than on urban residents, political scientists say.

“By now, we have a bunch of studies that have shown that it didn’t hurt British Columbia’s economy, it wasn’t regressive, which is often a concern, and it did reduce emissions below what they would have been otherwise,” said Kathryn Harrison, a professor of political science at the University of British Columbia who has written about British Columbia’s carbon tax program and currently is writing a book about carbon taxes.

So, what is preventing carbon pricing proponents from winning enough support in Oregon?

Oregon’s cap-and-trade attempts

Carbon taxes and cap-and-trade programs are different ways to put a price on greenhouse gas pollution. Both are meant to reduce emissions by forcing polluters to pay more for the waste they create.

Washington state tried and failed – twice – to pass a carbon tax by voter initiative. There are currently no U.S. states with a carbon tax.

Cap-and-trade programs are being used by the European Union, as well as by a consortium of 11 East Coast states. California also has a functioning cap-and-trade system, and the Washington Legislature enacted one this spring.

In Oregon, Democratic lawmakers tried their own cap-and-trade plans in 2019 and 2020.

Basically, cap-and-trade programs set a limit on how much pollution can be released in the state annually. Industries get allowances for how much they can pollute. If they want or need to pollute more, they are forced to buy allowances from other industries that are emitting less.

Over time, the level of pollution allowed in the state would be reduced and industries would be forced to clean up their businesses.

“Like a lot of bills, it put a price on carbon and, therefore, offered a market incentive for reducing emissions and a trading mechanism for selling them,” said Oregon state Sen. Jeff Golden, who worked on the 2019 legislation.



CREDIT: BRYAN M. VANCE / OPB

A man holding a sign in opposition to Oregon House Bill 2020 talks to fellow rally goers from the roof of a truck at an event on the Oregon Capitol steps in Salem, Ore., on Thursday, June 27, 2019.

The average Oregonian would feel the impact when businesses passed their costs along to consumers – at the gas pump, for instance. State forecasts from 2019 estimated Oregonians would pay 22 cents more per gallon of gas in 2021, and that amount would increase in subsequent years. The expectation is that more expensive gas will motivate people to adopt more fuel-efficient, less polluting vehicles.

British Columbia's conservative-led carbon tax

Unlike Oregon, which pursued cap and trade, British Columbia opted for a simpler carbon-pricing program.

In 2008, conservatives proposed a carbon tax that applied to almost all fossil fuels in the province, including gas, diesel, natural gas and even coal used by power plants.

According to Harrison, the University of British Columbia political scientist, the B.C. business sector didn't fight the tax because it applied equally to business and individuals.

"One of their conditions for not fighting a carbon tax was that it be applied broadly across the economy with the same price applying to everyone," Harrison said.

The other big appeal for British Columbians was that the carbon tax was revenue neutral. Whatever people paid in carbon taxes, they paid less in income taxes, corporate taxes or business taxes.

"It's designed to increase taxes on bad things, in particular, carbon pollution, and reduce other taxes," said George Hoberg, professor of public policy at the University of British Columbia. "So, businesses actually got as much or, in some cases, more money back than they spent on the carbon tax, and so did individuals."

Research also has shown that rural communities in British Columbia not only were made whole by the program's tax cuts, but benefited more from them than did their urban counterparts. A 2016 article in the journal *Ecological Economics* describes a "myth of unfairness," which asserts that benefits created for rural residents in northern interior British Columbia "overcompensated rural households, such that these households are



CREDIT: AMELIA TEMPLETON / OPB

Wind energy will play a significant role if Oregon hopes to significantly reduce carbon emissions.

net beneficiaries from the carbon tax. ...”

“So, in fact, it was a misperception that the carbon tax, in British Columbia’s case, was costing rural residents more,” Harrison said.

Both Harrison and Hoberg acknowledge the carbon tax was not universally liked. Conservative politicians in British Columbia suffered politically after it passed. Starting in 2013, lawmakers froze the carbon tax, preventing it from increasing for five years. But still, both professors said, it has made a difference. While British Columbia hasn’t met its overall greenhouse gas reduction goals, the carbon tax has likely slowed the increase of emissions.

In Oregon, Democrats made concessions for how rural residents would be affected by cap and trade. For example, the 2020 bill offered funding to help truckers convert to lower-emission fuels. Setting gas prices regionally also meant residents in Oregon’s largely rural east side wouldn’t see fuel increases at all. And there were tax credits designed to increase benefits to rural communities and offset gas costs for low-income residents around the state.

Looking back, Golden, the state senator, said the cap-and-trade bill’s downfall may have been its complexity, which made it vulnerable to misinformation.

“The more details, the more twists and turns and bells and whistles, the more opportunities there are to distort it,” Golden said.

In contrast, a carbon tax like British Columbia’s is relatively simple.

West Coast states push for carbon pricing

This year, Oregon Democrats pushed for scaled-back climate legislation, partly in hopes of avoiding more protests from Republicans. While cap-and-trade was off the table in 2021, one bill, still being debated at the time of publication, would create a plan to decarbonize Oregon's electric grid by transitioning to 100% emission-free electricity by 2040.

Critics of Oregon's climate bills argue the state's relatively low emissions in the face of overall global climate change make any carbon-pricing program inconsequential and not worth the economic costs.

But Harrison at the University of British Columbia said when neighboring jurisdictions create their own carbon-pricing programs, it builds political momentum and helps expand the impact of such programs. Today in Canada, all the provinces and territories have their own carbon-pricing program or follow a federal "backstop" requirement to limit emissions.

In Washington state, lawmakers passed their own cap-and-trade program after partisan debate in April. With California's carbon market and British Columbia's carbon tax, Oregon is the lone West Coast holdout.

The stakes of these bills and the costs of opponents sabotaging them are high, Harrison said.

"If they believe climate change is real, and God knows scientists are well convinced of that," she asked, "do they really want to score cheap points at the expense of future generations?"



Erik Neumann is a reporter and producer who's worked throughout the West Coast. He earned a Master's degree from the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism and joined JPR in 2019 after working as a reporter at NPR member station KUER in Salt Lake City.

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Early results from research still underway shows that, unlike mules, the new hybrid grass can go on to reproduce.

Hybrid Beachgrass Could Mean Trouble For Northwest Coast

A new potential threat has emerged to coastal dunes in the Pacific Northwest. Scientists at Oregon State University have confirmed that two widespread, invasive beachgrasses are now genetically mixing, which could present additional challenges to communities and dune restoration.

Before the introduction of European and American beachgrass, there was far more open sand on the Oregon and Washington coasts. Where it is present, native vegetation promoted lower dunes that tended to shift and morph.

“The non-native grasses out-compete some of the native non-grass – like the herbs and the forbs (flowering herbaceous plants) that were part of our system 150 years ago. There are efforts to try to restore dunes back to that native state,” said OSU coastal ecologist Sally Hacker.

On the other hand, it’s often better for communities and infrastructure if those dunes don’t move and instead provide a steady buffer against winter storms and surges.

That’s why European beachgrass was brought in at the turn of the 20th century. A few decades later, American beachgrass was introduced in Washington, and eventually became the dominant beachgrass in that state.

Now, where the ranges of the European and American beachgrasses overlap in northern Oregon and southern Washington, scientists have found clusters of beachgrass that don’t look like either.

“We found this other kind of strange grass that had intermediate characteristics of the two species. We didn’t know, really, what was going on,” Hacker said.

The researchers thought the new grass just might be a slightly different version, or variant, of one of the grasses. But they quickly realized that the physical characteristics were too distinct.

OSU Ph.D. student Rebecca Mostow began studying the new grass, documenting the physical traits and conducting a genetic analysis that confirmed the new grass is a hybridized cross between European and American beachgrass.

The results were published in the journal *Ecosphere*.

“We look at these small morphological character[istics] that grass people care about... and we found that the hybrid was intermediate in some of those traits, but then we also found that the hybrid was taller than either parent’s species,” Mostow said.



COURTESY OF OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

OSU beachgrass researcher Rebecca Mostow did the physical and genetic analysis that confirmed the two grasses were crossing.

This is a phenomenon called hybrid vigor.

“A cross between a donkey and a horse is a mule. The one thing that people know about mules is that they’re bigger and stronger than donkeys and horses. That’s hybrid vigor, and that’s part of the story of hybrids that we study,” she said.

The height of beachgrass matters because taller grass creates taller dunes. Different dune formations offer differing levels of protection for coastal communities.

“And so now we have this new type of grass growing on the dunes and we don’t totally know what kind of dune it will build. But because it grows taller than the parent species, we have this guess that maybe it’ll change the dune shape,” Mostow said.

Hacker says early results from research still underway shows that, unlike mules, the new hybrid grass can go on to reproduce. It produces viable seed, although not very many.

And there’s concern that the hybrid beachgrass will cross-breed back with one of the original grasses – basically allowing genes to flow back and forth between European and American beachgrass.

Down To Earth

Continued from page 15

"It has some real important consequences if it's happening on the coast," Mostow said. "Gene flow between invasive species - and increasing genetic variation in invasive species - has been shown to increase their invasive potential."

It's also unknown how the hybrid will impact dune ecosystems and efforts underway to protect them from invading grasses. This is a significant focus of the conservation and restoration work underway at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area on the central Oregon coast.

"We're expecting some differences in sand capture... and so that may affect the speed with which the grasses move," said Siuslaw National Forest restoration botanist Armand Rebeschke, who works at the Oregon Dunes to remove encroaching vegetation. "But... it's not an immediate concern."

So far the hybrid beachgrass hasn't been found south of Pacific City.

"We're keeping one eye on our ground here on the Siuslaw and another eye up north to see how things pan out up there," he said.

The hybrid grass has been found at 12 sites along the Oregon and Washington coast. And Mostow says she is recruiting citizen scientists to help look for the hybrid grass at other locations on the coast.



All three *Ammophila* beachgrasses, both parent species and a recently identified hybrid, occur at Sunset Beach, Oregon.



Jes Burns is a reporter for OPB's Science & Environment unit. Jes has a degree in English literature from Duke University and a master's degree from the University of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communications.



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MADELEINE DeANDREIS-AYRES

Roots Run Deep

Growing up in Eureka in the 60's, it was not uncommon to see a logging truck hauling one giant redwood log. Not 5 or 6 scraggly second-growth trees, but one huge ancient monolith. Teepee burners belched smoke up and down 101 and the mills were always hiring. Clear cutting was still a common logging practice and I remember whole mountainsides denuded of trees. Clear cutting, along with the pervasive and the oppressive stench of the Samoa Pulp Mill; I thought it was just the way life was always going to be.

So that was the 60's and 70's, and even though I saw the devastation caused by clear cutting, I knew people were working to save the redwoods. I had even heard about my great great aunt, Laura Perrott Mahan and my uncle James P. Mahan who were founding members of Save the Redwoods League in the 1920's. James, a lawyer with a practice in Eureka, married Laura Perrott, an artist and activist from the tiny town of Loleta. My mother talked about seeing Laura's paintings when she was a child but none remained in the family by the time her children came along.

Fast forward 30 years to 1999, and you would find me in a very crowded antique store in Eureka with my mother and my three kids where we ducked in to get out of the rain. As I cautioned my kids to not touch anything, I scanned the store and spied a painting, amid dozens of paintings, hanging on the back wall. I gingerly picked my way through delicate antiques to get a better look. It was a painting of the redwoods and beneath it was a short bio of the painter who was none other than my great, great aunt, Laura Perrott Mahan.

Even though logging was still going great guns in my childhood, the Save the Redwoods League and other private and public enterprises worked tirelessly to slow down the persistent onslaught perpetrated by the insatiable lumber industry. Led by the fierce determination of a group of women, with the formidable backing of nascent organizations like the California Federation of Women's Clubs, women like Laura Perrott Mahan worked on government entities, private philanthropies and their own husbands to join in this endeavor to save the redwoods for future generations. In 1924, the Save the Red-



Madeleine DeAndres Ayres, thrilled to be among the giant Redwood trees.



COURTESY OF MADELEINE DEANDREIS-AYRES

Found deep in the back of a Eureka antiques shop, Laura Perrott Mahan's rendering of the Redwoods she fought to preserve.

Jefferson Almanac

Continued from page 19

woods League negotiated with Pacific Lumber to temporarily pause logging on a tract of land by Dyerville on the Eel River so a deal could be worked out to buy the land and save the grove. Laura found out that logging had commenced on that tract of land, in violation of the agreement, and she raced south and stood in front of the logging equipment and halted the cutting until her husband, a lawyer, could file a legal injunction, saving the grove so you can visit it today and enjoy nature's awesome majesty.

That's just one story. For every victory, there were and continue to be many defeats. These women were advantaged in that they were white, well married and had the clout afforded to the privileged class. I don't mean that as an apology, but it is important to acknowledge that money and class contributed to the success of this and many environmental movements. How any natural resource gets saved from those who are determined to wrest the last vestiges of life out of existence is usually a broad-spectrum effort of people from all walks of life. Some get more press than others. I must admit I knew little about Laura Perrott Mahan until I heard an interview on Capital Public Radio with Laura and James Wasserman who were being interviewed about their book, *Who Saved the Redwoods? The Unsung Heroines of the 1920's Who Fought for our Redwood Forests*. I am embarrassed I didn't ask more questions about her with my elderly relatives when I was a kid. I thought there would be time later for that. Famous last words.

Of all the art hanging in that antique store on that rainy day in 1999, a seemingly generic oil painting of the redwoods caught my attention. At first glance the subject seems superficial but gaze on it long enough and you can imagine Laura Perrott-Mahan and her sisters in the Women's Clubs raising national and global awareness of the threat that faced these ancient forests. Without their early activism, we would not have the magnificent redwood parks we enjoy today.

Humboldt Redwoods State Park is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Find out about their activities at humboldtredwoods.org/100. Visit a redwood park this summer. Leave no footprint and send up a hearty thanks for the early visionaries who took



COURTESY OF THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Laura Perrott Mahan

on the lumber barons and saved these redwood groves for you and your grandchildren who will kick themselves someday for the questions they never asked you.



Madeleine DeAndreis-Ayres enjoys long walks in the Redwoods, admiring the efforts of her great great aunt Laura.

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DAVE JACKSON

The Year That Sorta Didn't Happen

It's hard to find much nice to say about the interesting times in which we currently find ourselves. That we have begun to return to some sense of normalcy is hopeful. Musicians, in their drive to continue to create (not to mention support themselves), had to find different outlets for their craft. With an all but captive audience, there was plenty of demand. For me, a video concert will never quite take the place of being there, but the use of live video was a great way for artists to keep in touch with their fans. The DIY aspect of it was great to observe. At JPR, we added "From Afar" to our *JPR Live Sessions*. I'll be very excited for them to be on location again, but I often found new appreciation for songs artists re-recorded at home either stripped down and minimal or even re-imagined with different tempos and instrumentation.

What's the chance we'll be nostalgic for pandemic songs? Singer/songwriter, JS Ondara wrote an entire album called *Tales of Isolation Vol 1*. "Lockdown on Date Night Tuesday" with the line "I'll meet you at the Kitchen table" and another called "From Six Feet Away" are a bittersweet and relatable to so many. Ray Lamontagne released *Monovision*, a truly solo effort from writing through production. On it is "We'll Make it Through," a pandemic inspirational if you will. Other artists wrote rallying cries. The Jason Isbell tune "What Have I Done to Help?" was timely and made a lot of sense.

The Wood Brothers built a new recording space. Oliver Wood made a solo album as well. For their *JPR Live Session (From Afar)*, we got to hear how they re-recorded some of their older songs. It seemed like the lockdown and isolation gave them the time to refine their sound. Their song "Alabaster" takes on new life with different tones and a little more space between the instruments in the mix.

Carsie Blanton, who is friends with the Wood Brothers, (multi-instrumentalist Jano Rix has produced 2 of her albums) co-wrote a song on the Oliver Wood solo record. She also released an album this Spring the title of which is also a great description, *Love and Rage*. The lead-off track "Party at the end of the World" is an upbeat existential lament to the lifestyles we lost. To make ends meet, Blanton and her band played online rent parties with a virtual tip jar. Each month they literally played for tips until they could afford their rent.

Sturgill Simpson, released three volumes of bluegrass versions of his previous songs called *Cuttin' Grass*. Singer/songwriter Hayes Carll re-imagined some of his previous work in homemade recordings he dubbed *The Alone Together Sessions*. He was able to enlist the help of some guests who sent recordings including Ray Wylie Hubbard with whom he co-wrote his



hit "Drunken Poet's Dream". Gillian Welch recorded three volumes of previously unreleased tracks and she and partner David Rawlings did an album of old folk tunes.

For fans of cover songs, you may even call this a good period.

The sister duo Larkin Poe took to social media playing their favorites in simply made videos. These social media posts and their *JPR Live Session (From Afar)* showed that they were comfortable performing in a new milieu. Their album *Self-Made Man* had originals and classic blues tunes. They also released a cover album, *Kindred Spirits*. Their stripped down take on "Nights in White Satin" trades the intensity of the orchestral movement in the original for a subtle slide guitar solo. None of the emotion is lost. Look for their video of the Chris Isaak classic "Wicked Game." It's a real treat. More amazing slide guitar and the vocal magic that seems exclusive to sister harmonies are all but perfect.

Among the songs on *Kindred Spirits* was the Derek and the Dominoes classic "Bell Bottom Blues". Wesley Schultz of the Lumineers took a crack at that as well on his cover album *Vignettes*. I can't say for sure who (forgive me) wore them better. Both remakes were sparse, Schultz was solo piano, but they

Continued on page 28

"I've ridden RVTD all my life."

On Sept. 8, 2020, we lost our home of 17 years in the Alameda Fire. After 101 days of living in the Girl Scout shelter, we were able to move into our new place. Today, many families are having to rebuild their lives.

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Recordings

Continued from page 23

both captured the desperation quite well. Schultz and Lumi-neers instrumentalist Jeremiah Fraites both were guests in *JPR Live Sessions (From Afar)*.

This spring, the duo Lowland Hum launched a cover album I'm still absorbing. The story according to them, is they were on the phone with their manager and jokingly suggested covering the Peter Gabriel album *So*, in its entirety. After getting off the phone they arranged part of "Sledgehammer". Fast forward, and we now have the album *So Low*. The songs are quieter. They somehow manage to be both sparse and lush. It's a drastic change on songs I know by heart, but like the original material done with enough nuance, there is something new to hear each time I play it. I feel like this album will stick with me for a while.

I can't wait for the excitement of a great live concert, but since we were living the year that sorta didn't happen, at least the soundtrack was good and we know that along with a good barista, artists of all sorts are essential to life.

JPR Live Sessions are archived at jprlivesessions.org. Find podcasts at Spotify, Stitcher and Apple Podcast.



Dave Jackson hosts *Open Air*, weekdays on JPR's Rhythm & News Service.



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JON HAMILTON

One big study presented to the FDA showed it worked. Another showed it didn't.

For Those Facing Alzheimer's, A Controversial Drug Offers Hope

Soon after Phillip Lynn got married in 2014, he began to forget things. He'd repeat himself. He'd get lost in places close to the couple's home in a suburb of St. Louis.

Then in 2016, his spouse, Kurt Rehwinkel, realized that Lynn's memory problems had become more severe.

They'd just visited some friends who'd gone to Hawaii with them three months earlier. When they'd talked about the trip, Lynn had become confused.

"I said, 'Oh, do you not do you not remember going to Hawaii and spending time with them and going to see Pearl Harbor and going out to the Arizona Memorial,'" Rehwinkel says. "And he's like, 'No, don't remember any of that.'"

Lynn, still in his 50s, was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's in 2017. That same year, he began receiving infusions of an experimental drug called aducanumab that he and Rehwinkel believe has halted or even reversed his memory loss.

In early June, the Food and Drug Administration approved the drug, based on its ability to reduce the sticky amyloid plaques that tend to accumulate in the brain of a person with Alzheimer's. But it's still not clear whether the drug, now called Aduhelm, can help preserve memory and thinking.

For many patients and their loved ones, though, the drug's approval is seen as a sign of progress.

"Now there's hope," Lynn says.



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NPR News Focus: Shots

Continued from page 21

Unlike most Alzheimer's patients, Lynn was aware that he might develop the disease in middle age.

"My father died with Alzheimer's at the age of 60 and so I wasn't really so shocked or anything," he says. "It was just OK, this is something that has been handed to me and I'm going to have to deal with it."

Lynn and Rehwinkel started looking into studies of experimental drugs for Alzheimer's. Then a neurologist told them that Washington University in St. Louis was going to conduct part of a nationwide study of Aduhelm.

"My jaw kind of hit the floor because this was the first one that we'd read about that actually does anything to address the disease, not just the side effects or symptoms of Alzheimer's," Rehwinkel says.

Lynn got into the trial. And he says within a few months, there were hints that his memory might be getting better.

"People were noticing that there was something different," he says. "They said, 'Have you noticed that Phillip's not repeating himself?'"

But there's reason to be cautious about drugs like Aduhelm, says Dr. Joy Snider, the principal investigator for the Washington University study.

It's the latest in a long list of drugs that proved highly effective at removing amyloid plaque, but not at slowing down the memory and thinking problems that are the hallmarks of Alzheimer's.

"Every trial failed," Snider says. "It's been very discouraging."

And it remains unclear whether aducanumab is any better. One big study presented to the FDA showed it worked. Another showed it didn't.

After looking at those results, a panel of 11 scientists who advise the FDA voted overwhelmingly against approving the drug. When the FDA approved the drug anyway, several panel members resigned in protest.

The uncertainty about aducanumab puts physicians in an awkward position. They must weigh any potential benefit from the drug against known risks, including brain swelling, and a price tag of about \$56,000 a year.

Recently, the Alzheimer's Association, which supported approval of the drug, said the price is "simply unacceptable" and called on Biogen, maker of the medicine, to lower it.

"It's going to be very hard as a clinician because patients and their families are already calling us and asking for this drug," Snider says.

Snider is hoping that Aduhelm will help some patients in the earliest stages of the disease.

"There probably are people who do respond well to this drug," she says. "But it remains to be seen how big an effect that is in everybody."

Phillip Lynn may be that rare patient who is getting a dramatic response, Snider says.



Cognitive tests done outside the clinical trial have hinted that Lynn's mental function is stable, and perhaps better than it was before he started taking Aduhelm.

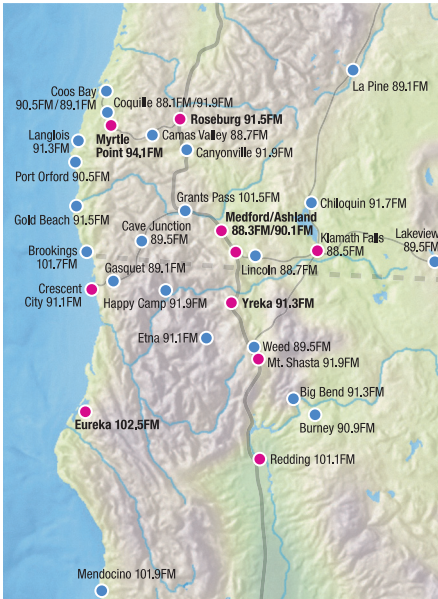
"Phillip might be an aberration," Rehwinkel says, adding that he doesn't want other patients and their families to have unrealistic expectations for the drug.

Still, Rehwinkel is puzzled by people who think Aduhelm should be kept off the market.

"I wondered, do these people really have loved ones who have a stake in the game?" he says. "Are they losing a little bit more of their loved one every day to the disease?"

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12:00pm Siskiyou Music Hall
4:00pm All Things Considered
6:30pm The Daily
7:00pm Exploring Music
8:00pm State Farm Music Hall

Saturday

5:00am Weekend Edition
8:00am First Concert
10:00am Metropolitan Opera
2:00pm Played in Oregon
3:00pm The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

4:00pm All Things Considered
5:00pm New York Philharmonic
7:00pm State Farm Music Hall

Sunday

5:00am Weekend Edition
9:00am Millennium of Music
10:00am Sunday Baroque
12:00pm Siskiyou Music Hall
2:00pm Performance Today Weekend
4:00pm All Things Considered
5:00pm Chicago Symphony Orchestra
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July 24 – *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* by Dmitri Shostakovich

July 31 – *Il Trovatore* by Giuseppe Verdi

August 7 – *Elektra* by Richard Strauss

August 14 – *Manon* by Jules Massenet

August 21 – *The Demon* by Anton Rubinstein

August 28 – *Parsifal* by Richard Wagner



Peter Seiffert as Tannhauser.

CREDIT: CLIVE BARDA

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9:00am Open Air
3:00pm Q
4:00pm All Things Considered
6:00pm World Café
8:00pm Undercurrents
3:00am World Café

Saturday

5:00am Weekend Edition
9:00am Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!
10:00am Radiolab
11:00am Snap Judgement
12:00pm E-Town
1:00pm Mountain Stage
3:00pm Folk Alley
5:00pm All Things Considered
6:00pm American Rhythm

8:00pm Conversations from the World Cafe
9:00pm The Retro Lounge
10:00pm Late Night Blues
12:00am Undercurrents

Sunday

5:00am Weekend Edition
9:00am TED Radio Hour
10:00am This American Life
11:00am The Moth Radio Hour
12:00pm Jazz Sunday
2:00pm American Routes
4:00pm Sound Opinions
5:00pm All Things Considered
6:00pm The Folk Show
9:00pm Woodsongs
10:00pm The Midnight Special
12:00pm Mountain Stage
1:00am Undercurrents

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1:30pm The Daily
2:00pm Think
3:00pm Fresh Air
4:00pm PRI's The World
5:00pm On Point
6:00pm 1A
7:00pm Fresh Air (repeat)
8:00pm The Jefferson Exchange (repeat of 8am broadcast)
10:00pm BBC World Service

Saturday

5:00am BBC World Service
7:00am Inside Europe
8:00am Day 6

9:00am Freakonomics Radio
10:00am Planet Money
11:00am Hidden Brain
12:00pm Living on Earth
1:00pm Science Friday
3:00pm To the Best of Our Knowledge
5:00pm Politics with Amy Walter
6:00pm Selected Shorts
7:00pm BBC World Service

Sunday

5:00am BBC World Service
8:00am On The Media
9:00am Innovation Hub
10:00am Reveal
11:00am This American Life
12:00pm TED Radio Hour
1:00pm The New Yorker Radio Hour
2:00pm Fresh Air Weekend
3:00pm Milk Street Radio
4:00pm Travel with Rick Steves
5:00pm To the Best of Our Knowledge
7:00pm BBC World Service

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It's important to remember that when you are connected to the Internet, the Internet is connected back to you.

Invasion Of The Internet Of Bodies

The next iteration of the Internet will be connecting smart devices implanted in our bodies directly to it. These Internet of Bodies (IoB) devices will gather all kinds of Person-Generated Health Data (PGHD), including behavioral data, and more advanced IoBs will directly alter the human body's function.

Most of us already have an IoB device and don't even know it. They may not be implanted in our bodies (not yet anyway), but they are already gathering PGHD. For example, my iPhone tracks my steps and collects that data in the Health app for later retrieval and analysis. I've walked 5,083 steps so far today, which is below my 7-day average of 7,473. (Turns out, you don't get many steps in while sitting in front of a computer writing about IoB devices.) Other wearable IoB devices such as watches, bracelets, rings could track my heart rate and blood pressure and push that data to my smartphone for later analysis.

IoBs are a subset of the broader category of what is called the "Internet of Things" (IoT). According to International Data Corporation (IDC), by 2025 there will be more than 41 billion active IoT devices generating 2.5 quintillion bytes of data daily.

A "bit" is the smallest unit of digital data and a "byte" is a collection of 8 bits. From there, the measurements increase in orders of magnitude with terms we've all become accustomed to hearing in the digital age: megabytes, gigabytes, terabytes, etc. The scale goes all the way up to a yottabyte, which is 1025 bits.

In conjunction with the digital systems we've created, we humans have been generating digital data at a staggering and exponential rate. Current estimates are that we will have generated 175 zettabytes by 2025. Unless you are an epic nerd, that number doesn't mean much to you. I can only begin to grasp the immensity of this quantity of data by having it put in a context I can visualize or that is relevant to my daily experience. For example:

- 175 zettabytes stored on DVDs would create a stack of DVDs that would be long enough to encircle the Earth 222 times.
- Downloading 175 zettabytes at the average current Internet connection speed would take 1.8 billion years.





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Inside The Box

Continued from page 27

IoBs will be a major contributor to this exponential data explosion. Currently, most IoB devices are wearable, but increasingly, they will be implanted in human bodies. For example, my father, who is diabetic, has a subcutaneous Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) that continuously monitors his blood sugar levels and sends data wirelessly to his smartphone via Bluetooth. If he wanted to, he could also get an insulin pump implant that runs Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms that would automate insulin dosing based on the data from the CGM.

In addition to CGMs and artificial pancreases, there are a number of other implantable medical IoB devices that are either being developed or are currently in use.

Implantable cardiac pacemakers now provide real-time and continuous information regarding a patient's cardiac fluctuations as well as enable remote management. “Smart” stents implanted in blood vessels enable continuous monitoring of blood flow and can alert health care providers if the possibility of a new clog is detected.

In 2017, the FDA approved the first ingestible digital pill that contained an embedded sensor that records that the pill has been consumed. When ingested, the sensor sends a message to a wearable patch that then transmits the data to a mobile app on a smartphone that tracks medication dosing.

Brain-computer interfaces (BCI) aim to connect human brains to computers via tiny electrodes that are inserted into the brain. BCIs that are currently under development will enable users to control prosthetic limbs or type on their smartphone by just *thinking* about what they want to type. Personally, a BCI that auto-typed what I'm thinking would be super dangerous under most circumstances. So yeah, I'll pass on that one.

But here's what I am thinking about right now: It's important to remember that when you are connected to the Internet, the Internet is connected back to you. System vulnerabilities can be remotely compromised and exploited, resulting in things like the shutting down of major gas pipelines, or electrical grids, or water delivery systems. Cyberattacks like the one on Colonial Pipeline have recently been receiving a lot of media attention. These types of cyberattacks will become increasingly more common in our connected, data-driven world and will have broader, more devastating effects on people.

The future that we're building today will include hackers (both criminal and government-sponsored) seeking to exploit system vulnerabilities in IoB devices with the intention of stealing sensitive health data or, at the extreme, altering the functionality of an implanted IoB to cause physical harm or death. As is the case with any new technology, the invasion of IoBs into our lives will solve some old problems while simultaneously creating some new ones.



Scott Dewing is a technologist, writer, and educator. He lives in the State of Jefferson.

Doesn't "Dame Shirley"
have a certain ring to it?

"So excellent in art, and still so rising"

(*Henry VIII*)

It is always a pleasure to be in contact with Shirley Patton, whether it be in person, on the phone or via email. Her contribution to theatre and broadcasting in the Rogue Valley over more than sixty years has been so significant that, in a different country, it might well have been recognised with an award – doesn't "Dame Shirley" have a certain ring to it?

Shirley joined the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 1958, and was with the company for some 30 years. Those were very different times: some of the actors were professional, but many were local people with no formal training but with a great passion for the stage. She shares that passion and enthusiasm, and encourages others who write and perform. Nothing in her time with OSF could have prepared her for what we have had to endure in the past: few years: there were thirteen sawmills in operation when she arrived in the Valley, and there were certainly issues to do with smoke and air inversion, but nothing like the threat of wildfire on the scale we have experienced recently. And there was certainly nothing comparable to the total lockdown of professional theatre. Shirley spoke of her feeling of disorientation, not knowing what season it was, having no summer performances on the Bricks, and sensing the domino effect of a lack of energy across the town.

I was interested to find that one of the things she missed most during the time of the theatre closures was the contact with other members of the audience, and the exchanging of reactions and of stories during intermissions. We all see the narratives presented on stage as mediated by the lenses of our own different experiences: none of us ever see the same play, and it is that sharing of experience that Shirley has most missed.

After her time with OSF, Shirley continued to perform with local theatre groups, especially with Camelot (most recently in *The Gin Game* in 2019) and with the Rogue Theater Company in *A Walk in the Woods* in 2020. However, to the family of JPR listeners, Shirley is perhaps most familiar as the voice of



Shirley Patton

"As It Was". This co-production between the Southern Oregon Historical Society (SOHS) and JPR was designed in two-minute segments to raise awareness of the region's rich history. The feature began in 1992 and Shirley took over in 2005, working with producer Raymond Scully and editor Kernan Turner. This team of volunteers produced some 3800 episodes in a fifteen-year period, charting myriad aspects of local history; one two-minute segment each weekday, broadcast mornings and afternoons on JPR's Classics & News Service. On those occasions when I have hosted "First Concert" or "Siskiyou Music Hall" one of my first tasks in the studio was to make sure that I had the relevant recording of "As It Was" at hand.

The series came to an end in August 2020, and, although we can still access a selection of the stories in the print collection by Carol Barrett, we miss hearing Shirley read them, and she misses the excitement of opening those packets of stories: "Each month when the scripts come in, it was like opening a treasure box."

Perhaps, if we can't have "Dame Shirley", we can follow another UK tradition, and welcome her to our hearts as a National treasure, loved and admired for all she has given us. One of her most distinctive traits is that Shirley always ends a conversation with the question "And how about? What have you been doing?"

Thank you, Shirley: may the next phase of your life be as rewarding for you as all that has gone before.



Geoff Ridden has taught in universities in Africa, Europe and North America. Since moving to Ashland in 2008, he has become a familiar figure on radio, in the theatre, in the lecture hall and on the concert stage. He is artistic director of the Classic Readings Theatre Company and has a particular interest in adaptations of the plays of Shakespeare. Email geoff.ridden@gmail.com

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ANNA KING

Every time I look in the newspaper, I see another person my age dead. Teachers, health workers, good people. Gone.

It's Been A Long Haul: JPR Correspondent Anna King On Her Snail-Slow Recovery 1 Year After COVID-19

Sometimes I feel as low as a cold-early-morning snail on the Richland river path.

June 3 marks a year since COVID-19 blasted through my immune system. I have never figured out how I got it. And my recovery has come in fits and starts. But mostly it's just been incredibly, snail-slow.

When I stopped having fevers from COVID-19 is when the doctors pronounced me over the disease. I could barely walk down one block and back to the house. Each breath was a gasp for air, heaving. Lungs like concrete. Now, I am able to walk quickly for several miles keeping pace with my friend. But I still huff hard on even the slightest of hills.

Sometimes I get frustrated with myself. I still feel so sluggish and slow. I've gained weight from this hard year at home.

But I also have moments of profound gratitude. I am firmly planted on this earth. So many are not with us now. Every time I look in the newspaper, I see another person my age dead. Teachers, health workers, good people. Gone.

When I go for a walk, I notice the flowers in my neighborhood. Last year I spent the summer inside. I missed the roses, the iris, the daphne, the pansies. I hungrily drink them in, making my husband stop while I tiptoe a few steps into neighbors' yards to smell them. "Leave some for the rest of us," he teases me.

Last July, when I became fever free, I signed up for yoga les-



CREDIT: ANNA KING / OPB

Anna King went to the KADLEC Emergency Room twice during her battle with COVID-19. Once she was having trouble breathing, another time the virus attacked her inner ear, giving her vertigo.

sons on Zoom to help me recover. I started with simple twists and stretches on the floor. I could barely do it. Now, twice a week for a year, I've worked slowly with a patient teacher. I can now hold dolphin pose and dancer pose for short periods of time.

A few months ago I was dealing with tight feelings in my chest. I've had other long-haul symptoms, too. The exhaustion. The difficulty breathing. Much of my hair fell out.

Sometimes friends of mine call, also long-haulers. They're struggling, and trying to get into the University of Washington's COVID long-hauler program. They've been trying to find a doctor who's COVID-literate. I have family and friends struggling with life-and-death long-haul fights of their own, like cancer. I write them letters.

I'm now fully vaccinated. The second shot made me sick for 48 hours. It brought back bad memories of being in the grip of COVID. But I was glad to get it. Now, I find myself worrying about the variants.

But I keep snapping back to this: I'm here. Most of the time, I can work a full day without collapsing. I can hug my family again, feel the little spindly arms of my nieces drape around me.

I can drink in the flowers — because I can breathe now.

I'm so lucky to be here on earth.

I'm healing. It's OK to be a snail.

I'm gonna see summer.

During the pandemic, many people took up new pastimes. Anna has been writing poetry. This is what she wrote about her COVID-19 journey:

*I thought I shouldn't have stayed out in the sun so long
talking to Mary Beth
I was traveling home
I was too hot
But then, sick
Sicker than the time when I was in the ICU as a girl
Weeks of fighting for my breath
Like keeping my head under the blasting shower too long
Fighting myself to fall asleep and keep breathing
Afraid
A visit to the ER, then another
Two or three bad days from a long stay in the hospital,
maybe intubation
Each time under the street lamps in the emergency lane I
would say goodbye to my husband and dog
Wondering if I'd come out again
Then the fever
It wouldn't leave
Five weeks on the couch trying to get rid of the internal
heat
Ice packs, rest, mango lassies
Cards, letters, calls
Texting my husband who was hiding from COVID in our
same house*



CREDIT: ANNA KING / OPB

*Feeling crappy for days, then weeks, then two months
I'd wake up and think it was gone, the uncertainty
Only to descend again into the fever
So lonely
When I was finally done, I could hardly walk to the car
The first time it took me about 40 minutes to get to the end
of the block
Then, I went around the block
On one walk, I saw a snail crossing the asphalt river path
This last year has moved so slow
Haltingly healing
My hair fell out
My lungs like concrete
My heart hurt, sharp pains, squeezing
My brain is slow
But I've been at work against this virus like the deliberate
snail:
Now, I can walk four miles quickly,
I can do dancer pose,
Meditate for one minute,
Write this poem.*

Anna King calls Richland, Washington home and loves unearthing great stories about people in the Northwest. She reports for the Northwest News Network from a studio at Washington State University, Tri-Cities.

ERIK NEUMANN

Southern Oregon Cannabis Boom Creates Fears Of An Increasing Illicit Trade

In Southern Oregon, cannabis farming is booming. But while hemp and marijuana can both be legally grown in the state, much of this year's expansion is on the illegal market.

On a sunny spring day in Southern Oregon's Illinois Valley, Mason Walker is showing off a garden that will soon be filled with marijuana plants.

"We have a permanent trellising system that's installed almost in a vineyard style," says Walker, co-owner of East Fork Cultivars. "We put labels up at the end of the rows so people know what they're looking at, just like you might walk through the pinot noir section of a vineyard."

On their 33-acre farm, Walker and a team grow one acre of marijuana and nine acres of USDA organic hemp, processed for CBD. Both Walker and the farm's co-founder Aaron Howard have noticed a rapid increase of marijuana grown in the area in 2021.

"I first came to Southern Oregon in 2008 and a 48-plant garden was huge," Howard says. "And now in 2021 there's 80 acres at 2,000 plants per acre. So, the scale is really hard for me to even wrap my head around and the impact on the local community is kind of mind-boggling to me."

Marijuana has been grown in this corner of Oregon for decades. It's a fixture of the region's counter-culture past. But residents and public officials agree that this year is different for cannabis agriculture. The farms are bigger and so are the impacts on the surrounding rural communities.

"What I'm learning is that it's actually people just growing without any license whatsoever under drug trafficking organizations or cartels, and that is overwhelming Southern Oregon right now," says Rep. Lily Morgan, R-Grants Pass, who represents much of Josephine County in the state legislature.

Morgan says she's getting calls from residents, including those who are pro-cannabis, who say water is being stolen, land is being clear-cut up to the property lines for marijuana farms and neighbors are being threatened by growers.

"What's different this year is it's much more in your face," says Josephine County Sheriff Dave Daniel.

"This year I think we're seeing more cartel activity. Cartel being, you know, maybe coming from another country or South America or Mexico or Ukraine, or wherever they're from. They come from all over the world to here in Josephine County," Daniel says.

Josephine County had a record eight homicides last year, four of which were related to the cannabis industry, according to the sheriff.



CREDIT: ERIK NEUMANN/JPR

Mason Walker steps into a greenhouse at East Fork Cultivars in the Illinois Valley. Walker says he's seen a dramatic growth of cannabis farming operations in Josephine County in 2021.

Hemp became a legal cash crop in Southern Oregon in 2019 after the U.S. Farm Bill passed in 2018. The majority of producers were growing it for the CBD market, but so much hemp was grown it created a glut in the market, according to Mason Walker at East Fork Cultivars.

"The bottom fell out of the market early last year and the commodity prices for hemp agricultural products dropped by 90% in a six-month period following that crash," Walker says. "So, for hemp farmers it's really challenging."

He says that may have caused people to switch from legally growing hemp to illegally growing marijuana. After all, hemp is the same cannabis plant as marijuana but without the chemicals that get you high. Hemp's regulation as an agricultural product under the Oregon Department of Agriculture is comparatively lax versus marijuana, which is overseen by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Now, three years since the Farm Bill passed, Oregonians are used to seeing huge fields of hemp.

"I think it provides a sort of visual cover for folks that are maybe growing a large amount of illicit cannabis," Walker says.

There are other reasons Josephine County is a good place to grow illegal marijuana. Law enforcement has historically been underfunded here, which makes it easier to grow an illegal crop, according to Sheriff Daniel.

JPR News Focus: Law & Justice

Continued from page 33



Aaron Howard, co-founder of East Fork Cultivars.



Mason Walker, co-owner of East Fork Cultivars.

“We don’t have the law enforcement resources to get all of the grows that are within Josephine County, not even not even tip of the iceberg,” Daniel says.

In 2021, lawmakers in Salem were focused on illicit cannabis in Southern Oregon. In the waning days of the legislative session a bill to increase law enforcement to bust illegal cannabis grows was moving quickly through the legislature. While it was still being debated at the time of publication, it would add inspectors at the Oregon Department of Agriculture and give law enforcement maps of licensed hemp grows so they could identify others that are unlicensed. The proposed legislation would even give the Governor the authority to call in the National Guard to help inspect industrial hemp operations.

Representative Morgan says most residents don’t resent individuals growing small amounts of marijuana to make a living and feed their families, like has been done in Southern Oregon for decades.

“What they resent is the amount of people from outside the area that come here, destroy the beautiful landscape, that steal the water rights, threaten the neighbors, destroy the property, get their money and leave,” she says.



Josephine County Sheriff Dave Daniel attributes the growth of cannabis farming in 2021 to increased activity by drug trade organizations in Southern Oregon.



JPR's Erik Neumann is a reporter and producer who's worked throughout the West Coast. He earned a Master's degree from the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism and joined JPR in 2019 after working as a reporter at NPR member station KUER in Salt Lake City.

ROB MANNING

Other than one row of graves, the grave markers and the locations of remains don't match up.

Federal Initiative Means Closer Look At Indigenous Burial Sites In Northwest

When Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced a sweeping investigation into burial sites on current and former school sites that have historically served Native Americans, it was met with amazement, even among people who've been searching out Indigenous remains for years.

Marsha Small is a doctoral candidate at Montana State University, and until recently was the Teppola Distinguished Visiting Professor at Willamette University's anthropology department.

"I knew that she was going to make a statement about the Indian boarding schools," Small told OPB. "But I didn't know it'd be so heavy and broad, and that it would encapsulate basically everything I have been hoping for, asking the universe for, to help our people."

Small is Northern Cheyenne, and a researcher who has both dug through old federal records and examined burial sites with ground-penetrating radar to find unidentified remains of Indigenous people in the Pacific Northwest, including at Chemawa Indian School in Salem. Chemawa is an off-reservation boarding school run by the Bureau of Indian Education, which is within the Interior Department.

The kind of work Small is doing is poised to expand dramatically under the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative recently announced by Haaland. It aims to find old school locations and burial sites on them, where researchers would search for unidentified remains, with the goal of identifying who died and what tribal affiliations they had. In her announcement, Haaland acknowledged the generations of trauma inflicted upon Indigenous people through brutal practices at federally-run boarding schools.

"The Interior Department will address the intergenerational impact of Indian boarding schools to shed light on the unspoken traumas of the past, no matter how hard it will be," Haaland said in a statement announcing the initiative. "I know that this process will be long and difficult. I know that this process will be painful. It won't undo the heartbreak and loss we feel. But only by acknowledging the past can we work toward a future that we're all proud to embrace."

The work of finding the remains is itself painful, as Small can attest. She said the emotional impact of being at the burial sites and discovering unidentified bones — often of young children — can be overwhelming.

"I will lose the train of thought immediately," Small said, as she recalled standing in the Chemawa cemetery searching for remains. "It is daunting and it's so soul-impacting. And if you're not impacted by it, then maybe you're in the wrong area."



On June 22, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland announced the creation of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative.

Small discovered 222 sets of remains at Chemawa. That's more than the 208 she said the federal government had documented at the school cemetery.

But that's only one problem. Small said other than one row of graves, the grave markers and the locations of remains don't match up. She noted her radar technology could only penetrate one meter into the ground, leaving her to suspect there are more remains buried farther down, that she's hoping to find when she returns to the Salem campus in September.

Chemawa may prove to be one of the easier places to start because it's a long-known school site that's been used almost continuously since the 19th Century. But the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition has created a list of at least 367 school sites across the country — the vast majority of which haven't operated as schools for years. It lists nine schools in Oregon: the current Chemawa site in Salem and its predecessor in Forest Grove, as well as seven other locations scattered throughout the state.

As Interior Department officials plan their investigations of school burial sites, Small emphasized two attributes for people leading the work: That they be adequately trained on how to use the ground-penetrating radar technology, and that they're Indigenous.

CREDIT: AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, FLICKR



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JPR News Focus: Indigenous Affairs

Continued from page 35

“It could turn into just another Western colonial agenda,” Small warned. “They need tribal representation on each project – somebody that knows what they’re doing.”

Haaland’s initiative doesn’t intend to stop with locating sites and finding remains. The effort, led by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland, includes identifying who these people – largely children – were.

The initiative won’t just be emotionally and technologically challenging. SuAnn Reddick, former historian at Chemawa, anticipates problems originating from poor recordkeeping and issues from disturbances to the land. Reddick warned of disturbed grave sites and mountains of federal “sanitary records” – as some federal agencies called birth and death documents decades ago.

“Unfortunately, many or most of the school cemeteries (including Chemawa) were demolished at some point, and many of the school enrollment and sanitary records are buried deep in the government’s archival bowels,” Reddick told OPB.

“Finding names and tribes of the children will be a huge challenge.”

There can be cultural conflicts over the investigative research, as well, Small said. While some information can be gathered matching radar data with records and archival research, nailing down precisely how old a person was, whether they’d been malnourished, or what tribe they belonged to likely requires DNA analysis. And that kind of forensic technology is controversial among tribes, according to Small.

While the effort is daunting, Small said she found Haaland’s announcement “fortifying.” It’s ultimately aimed as much toward the present and future, as it is in examining the past, according to Haaland, the first Indigenous person to serve as a cabinet secretary.

“It is a history that we must learn from if our country is to heal from this tragic era,” Haaland said in an op-ed recently published in *The Washington Post*.

Small, for her part, is measuring her expectations for the upcoming initiative. The Interior Department follows efforts in Canada to find unidentified remains of Native children in that country, as well as an attempt at “truth and reconciliation” in its relationships with Indigenous nations. Small said she sees “truth” and accountability, and other positive strides in Canada, but not true “reconciliation.” In the U.S., she sees a chance for some measure of progress in the next few years.

“There’s a window that we’ve got time to put in these programs and to create, facilitate ... healing. And if we do that, then that would be great,” Small said.



Rob Manning is a news editor at Oregon Public Broadcasting, with oversight of reporters covering education, healthcare and business. Rob became an editor in 2019, following about 15 years covering schools and universities in Oregon and southwest Washington as OPB’s education reporter.



Chemawa Indian School is located just north of Salem off of I-5.

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Journalistic Values And Public Perceptions: A New Look At Trust

Distrust in the media has been growing for the past several decades. But recent research suggests that distrust doesn't fall along the partisan divide you might expect. And it suggests there are ways to turn that trend around.

In my last column, I discussed how journalists operate on a set of core values that informs our perception of who we are, what we do and why we do it.

We see ourselves, at our aspirational best, as providing needed oversight of the government, corporations and other powerful actors in our society. We believe factual information makes for better decision making. We believe that the more information that's out in the open, the better. We think we can improve society by shedding light on what's wrong and by paying attention to marginalized people and groups.

These values – oversight, factuality, transparency, spotlighting wrongdoing and giving voice to the voiceless – are widely shared among the practitioners of our craft. They underlie our ethical codes and form the base of our understanding of what our job is and the importance of doing it well.

But findings from a recently-released study by the Media Insight Project suggest that most Americans don't think our values are all that valuable.

It's no secret that the esteem in which the news media are held has been deteriorating for a long time. A Gallup poll from last September found only 40 percent of Americans have “a great deal” or “a fair amount” of trust in the news media. That's distressing but not exactly breaking news. And journalists tend to see that mistrust as a function of the country's increasing partisan tribalism. For example, Democrats are seven times more likely than Republicans to say they trust the mainstream media, and independents are four times as likely, according to Gallup.

But this new research found that the trust gap is less a function of partisanship and more related to a disparity between the core values of journalism and the values held by many of our fellow citizens.

The Media Insight Project study draws on a body of work known as Moral Foundations Theory, developed by social psychologist Jonathan Haidt and his colleagues. This research asks people questions and places them on a scale of five basic moral values, described in the study this way:



- **Care versus harm:** Tests how important it is to be kind and protect others, especially the less fortunate, and keep them from harm.
- **Fairness versus cheating:** Tests how important it is to think about justice, equality, and reciprocal altruism and how much people should be punished for dishonesty and fraud.
- **Loyalty versus betrayal:** Tests people's feelings about a group they are part of and self-sacrifice for group gain. It measures how much someone feels tied to a group or idea and rewards self-sacrifice and conformity.
- **Authority versus subversion:** Tests people's attitudes toward social hierarchy and respect for leadership, tradition, and authority.
- **Purity versus degradation:** Tests how people feel about virtues such as sanctity and touches on disgust for things that are unnatural.

Compare this with the five values that drive journalism and you can see the potential for disconnection.

For example, the study says, “People who put more emphasis on the moral values of loyalty and authority ... tend to be more skeptical of some of the core values journalists try to uphold [such as oversight or transparency], or at least worry that these values could be taken too far. People who put more em-

phasis, by contrast, on the moral values of fairness for all and caring for the less fortunate tend to be more aligned with core press values. These differences persist even when we control for a person's political partisanship and ideology."

The study notes that these moral differences influence how people feel about how news stories are framed and what aspects of a story should be emphasized, and it suggests that journalists can make their work more appealing to people who don't necessarily share their value framework by adding or adapting elements of their reporting to "broaden their moral appeal."

For example, the study says:

"We took some basic news stories and wrote each of them two different ways. The revised versions edited the lead sentence and headline to emphasize different themes of the story that highlight the moral values of authority or loyalty (e.g., calling out leaders or ties to the local community). The revised versions also included an additional paragraph that emphasized a different moral angle of the story in addition to the frames included in the original. In all other ways, the two versions contained the same information. In some instances, the revised stories were more appealing to all types of people. For example, significantly more people considered a revised version of a story about election security to be balanced (62% versus 44%).

More also considered the revised story trustworthy (78% versus 70%). And even people who already trust the press tended to like stories more when those stories were revised to broaden their appeal."


These results pose an interesting challenge to those of us in the news business. Clearly, our work will be more valuable and have more impact if more people trust it.

Developing ways to report the news that reflect our journalistic values while including the sensibilities of people working from different moral frameworks will take a new approach, one that has yet to be clearly understood or delineated.

But if that's what it's going to take to reverse the decades-long slide in our credibility with many of our fellow citizens, we need to at least explore what that might look like.



Liam Moriarty has been covering news in the Pacific Northwest for more than 20 years. After a stint as JPR's News Director from 2002 to 2005, Liam covered the environment in Seattle, then reported on European issues from France. He returned to JPR in 2013 as a regional reporter. Now, Liam is once again News Director, overseeing the expansion of the news department and leading the effort to make JPR the go-to source for news in Southern Oregon and Northern California.



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Just like the layer of ash from the eruption of Mount Mazama roughly 8,000 years ago that created Crater Lake, archaeologists will be able to recognize the COVID horizon of PPE, sanitizing supplies, Amazon boxes, leisurewear, etc. as a distinct temporal marker.

COVID-19 Archaeology

Last spring I wrote about a Steller's Jay nest built outside my window using twigs and Clorox wipes. This pandemic nest became an interesting symbol of the strange new world we were living in. One year later, the birds returned and once again tucked scavenged wipes (seriously- where are these coming from?) and sticks into the old nest. But this year they didn't stay. For whatever reason they moved on. As we all get vaccinated and begin to leave the house and hug friends and family it feels like we too are moving on and leaving behind our Pandemic nests. However, as we begin to lessen our cleaning protocols, shed our masks, and re-enter society, the artifacts of this past year and a bit will remain, like this abandoned nest, as a testament to what will surely be the most challenging period in most of our lives.

We spoke with Bob Muckle on April's episode of *Underground History* about his Archaeology of COVID project. Muckle and his students are documenting the material culture of the pandemic with an eye towards how it is being expressed as art, accumulating as waste, and "how the material culture of COVID relates to public health directives; the impact of COVID-related trash on the environment; and how COVID-19 will be imprinted on the archaeological record of Metro Vancouver." Discarded masks, gloves, and sanitizing products litter many urban landscapes, along with other cultural expressions of the pandemic, including murals, graffiti, social distancing markers, and even clever business signs.

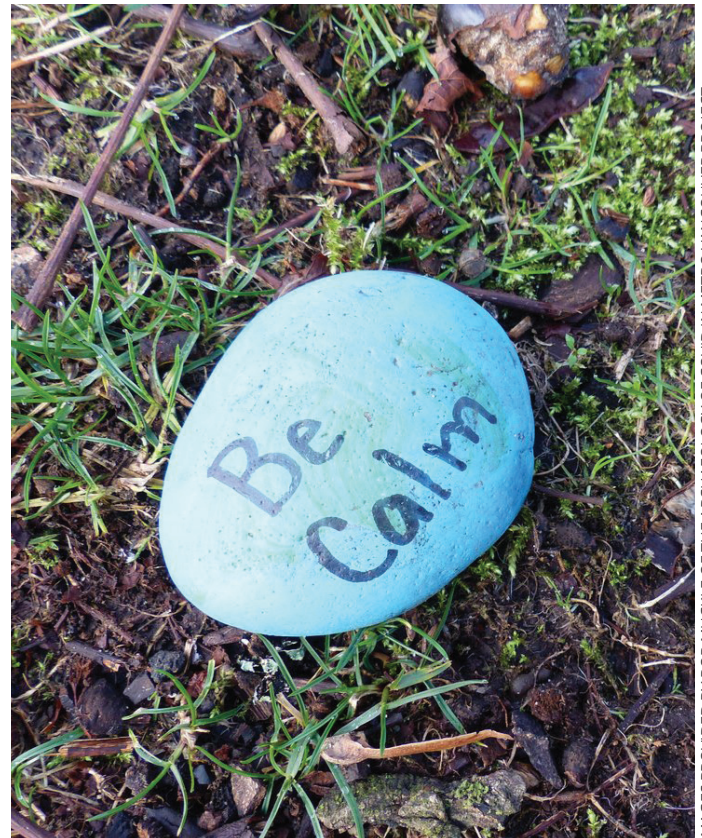
In 2020 I prompted you to be mindful of the Pandemic nest you were building (remember how hoarding toilet paper was a thing back then?), and now I urge you to reflect on the lessons learned and material culture accumulated over these past 15 months or so. Unpacking the impacts of COVID-19 on our lives is a big ask, so I will stick to the aspects of it that fall within my wheelhouse: namely, the stuff.

In our immediate environment, lost or discarded disposable and cloth masks can be found *everywhere*, and social distancing prompts mark sidewalks and floors with chalk, paint, and stickers. Just like the layer of ash from the eruption of Mount Mazama roughly 8,000 years ago that created Crater Lake, archaeologists will be able to recognize the COVID horizon of PPE, sanitizing supplies, Amazon boxes, leisurewear, etc. as a distinct temporal marker. As we emerge from the Pan-

demic into something resembling "normal," we are freed from defining our physical space in six-foot increments and our days in two-week quarantines. We are adjusting back to lives in "hard pants" and remembering how to socialize again without considering all humans outside our households as potential

threats. For those frontline workers who never had the luxury of tailoring personal grooming solely to the limits of a zoom camera, I would imagine the adjustment period is more one of immense relief and an increased sense of personal safety.

There are so many aspects of this ongoing global event that archaeologists won't be able to see as easily: the immense tragedy, the inequity brutally exposed, and the socio-cultural reckoning that accompa-



IMAGES PROVIDED BY BOB MUCKLE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF COVID IN METRO VANCOUVER PROJECT.

Underground History

Continued from page 41



nied these discarded items. Bob Muckle and the other scholars documenting this event in real time around the world will allow us to better contextualize the many impacts of COVID-19. How we, as a species, have navigated the unimaginable. How we have processed these big feelings through art and politics. How we have tried to stay healthy by protecting ourselves and others. And, how we can learn from this experience to be and do better. We know what was before this distinctive dot on the timeline of human history, and the ways in which we emerge, as individuals, communities, and nation states, will determine what comes next.

You can learn more about the Archaeology of COVID in Metro Vancouver project by following them on Twitter: @covidarcheology



Chelsea Rose is an archaeologist with the Southern Oregon University Laboratory of Anthropology (SOULA) and co-host of Underground History, a monthly segment that airs during the Jefferson Exchange on JPR's News & Information service.

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DON KAHLE

If Barbie doll legs are priced at three-for-a-dollar, show some respect. Paying full price might keep somebody in their home.

Summer Is Here. Everything Must Go.

Summer is officially underway when the mower doesn't have to be used twice a day to beat back the jungle that our lawns want to become. Our temperate rain forest brings brutal fecundity. Neighbors mow in the rain because the growth won't slow. Soon those same neighbors will be watering their lawns to refute the late summer drought.

For those of us who are less horticulturally inclined, something else sprouts up reliably this time of year, adding bright colors and excitement to street corners everywhere. Like that mound of grass clippings in corners of yards, neon placards point to sites of organic recycling, cultural compost, if you like — or even if you don't.

The season of yard sales has begun. Driveways are suddenly filled with spare toaster ovens, outgrown clothing, and keepsakes that need new keepers. Neighbors often meet for the first time over spare change purchases, even if they have lived on the same street for years. Commerce continually creates community, if you like — and I don't.

It's not often said (or admitted in some circles) but we do yard sales better than almost any place I know. The key to a healthy resale ecosystem is a fertile mix of diversity and desperation. If yard sales are too much alike, the hunt for "something special" peters out quickly. Bargains are to yard-salers what white truffles are to mushroom hunters.

College towns always have a leg up in the yard sale world. Whether it's college kids, grad students, or instructors denied tenure, many will leave Eugene for good this month. "Everything Must Go" precedes them going themselves. All the versions of midlife crisis add to the mix — marriages ending, Peace Corps calling, downsizing for sanity's sake.

This year offers extra bounty, but also a reason to be wary. Like morels flourishing in the burned forests upriver, our ecosystem has been disrupted. People have been cooped up for over a year, staring incessantly at their coop. We all want to say what Oscar Wilde did on his deathbed: "This wallpaper is dreadful, one of us will have to go."

One caution merits our attention this year. Desperation may be in fuller bloom than in other years. We have among us those who couldn't work, or couldn't work enough, or who didn't navigate the pandemic relief options. People facing eviction or foreclosure may not be in the mood to haggle prices. If Barbie doll legs are priced at three-for-a-dollar, show some respect. Paying full price might keep somebody in their home.

Apart from that caveat, enjoy the season and relish the hunt. You never know what you might find. When my boys were young, we always did our Saturday yard-saling by bicycle. It slowed us down, we got good exercise, we learned new neighborhoods, and we limited our purchases to what we could carry home.

For memorable weekend adventures, you need only Bill Sullivan's hiking guidebooks or a willingness to follow hand-drawn arrows stapled to telephone poles. In both cases you'll see things you never knew existed. And so nearby!



Don Kahle (fridays@dksez.com) writes a column each Friday for *The Register-Guard* and archives past columns at www.dksez.com.





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Go to iJPR.org/FreeWill-JPR to learn more, and get started today!



**CHRISTOPHER
KIMBALL**

Rosé Sangria

Our sangria technique worked so well with white wine, we adapted it to rosé. Portuguese rosé vinho verde was our favorite, but any lightly sweet rosé will work

Don't add the citrus slices until just before serving. The piths impart bitterness.

10 MINUTES, PLUS CHILLING
6 SERVINGS

Ingredients

¼ cup white sugar
1 750-milliliter bottle of rosé
6 large strawberries (sliced)
1 6-inch piece of cucumber (peeled and thinly sliced)
1 jalapeño (seeded and sliced)
5 tablespoons lime juice
1 lime, thinly sliced (to serve)
1 cup fresh raspberries (to serve)
2 cups soda water

Directions

1. In a large pitcher, stir in the white sugar, rosé, the strawberries, cucumber, jalapeño and the lime juice, lightly bruising the fruit. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour or overnight. To serve, stir in the lime, raspberries and soda water. Serve over ice.

Christopher Kimball's Milk Street in downtown Boston—at 177 Milk Street—is home to the editorial offices and cooking school. It also is where they record *Christopher Kimball's Milk Street* television and radio shows. *Milk Street* is changing how we cook by searching the world for bold, simple recipes and techniques. For more information, go to 177milkstreet.com. You can hear *Milk Street* Radio Sundays at 3:00pm on JPR's News & Information service.

BARBARA PARCHIM

Grounded

—for Wiz

What is your dream in this quiet confinement?
Is it wind under wing,
loft—a taste on the feather,
cloudless skies, sun-warmed back of browns and russets?
Expanse and detail only a hawk's eye could know—
grain of sand, vein of leaf,
wing-flash near silvered water.

Dream or memory:
banking, wheeling, perhaps calling—
was that your signature?
Your gift and your failing both,
heard by those others of wing and fur
who trembled at the stoop
and scurried and dove for cover.

A bit of freedom then, before the jess and glove.

And now we, your keepers, carefully tending the body
with medicines and meat and stillness,
listen to your quiet murmurings.
Imperfect guardians,
we imagine we see what came before,
yet still struggle to know the thing
that quickens your heart and fires your blood.
We would offer it,
like quail to talon,
to keep you with us a while longer.

Barbara Parchim lives on a small farm in southwest Oregon. Retired from social work, she volunteered for several years at a wildlife rehabilitation facility caring for raptors and wolves. She enjoys gardening and wilderness hiking. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Ariel Chart*, *Allegro Poetry*, *Isacoustic*, *Turtle Island Quarterly*, *Windfall*, *Trouvaille Review*, and others. Her first chapbook has been selected by Flowstone Press to appear in 2021.

Taking the Long View

Between storms, the oaks awaken from winter—
canopy alive with the business of spring.
The clan of acorn woodpeckers settle their disputes
and inspect nest holes
their ancestors have used for generations.
Nuthatches forage on green-furred trunks
of lichen and moss,
spongy and thick from winter's rains.

Downhill, below the garden, the springs surge
through rafts of lush watercress
and bog the meadows—fecund and rich.
Snipes return on stilted legs to probe the saturated soil
for larvae, worms and spiders—
a shorebird come inland to glean the muck.
Soon the camas will emerge in wide swaths
to blanket beneath cottonwood, alder and willow.

These stately oaks of 300 to 400 years,
remnant of a once larger savannah,
bear witness to a 55,000 acre clearcut
of the mountain forest adjacent to ours.
Over 5 years the alteration will be complete—
landscape transformed by amputation.
The wind messages the dying and sweeps downslope
to catch in the canopy with news the oaks already have.

I don't think these oaks
speculate much on possibility,
but perhaps when a life is measured in centuries
it is possible to take the long view:
for a heart that beats only once in two hours
there may be breath enough,
and when our kind has gentled or vanished,
the mountains may green again.

Writers may submit original poetry for publication in *Jefferson Journal*.

Email 3–6 poems, a brief bio, and your mailing address in one attachment to jeffmopoetry@gmail.com, or send 3–6 poems, a brief bio, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Amy Miller, Poetry Editor

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Ashland, OR 97520

Please allow eight
weeks for reply.



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